

Message Text

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43

ACTION OPIC-06

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 EB-07 AID-05 COME-00 TRSE-00

/029 W

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P 271615Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6876

UNCLAS PANAMA 1425

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, PN

SUBJECT: OPIC LOAN TO IPC/PESQUERA TABOGUILLA

REF: A) STATE 035520, B) PANAMA 1310

1. EFFORTS BY INTERNATIONAL PROTEIN CORP. (IPC), ITS PANAMA SUBSIDIARY PESQUERA TABOGUILLA (PT) AND EMBASSY TO EXPEDITE DESIRED AMENDMENT (REF A) TO PT INFANT INDUSTRY ACCORD WITH GOP HAVE PRODUCED FOLLOWING RESULTS IN ADDITION TO THOSE REPORTED REF B. MINCOMIND JULIO SOSA CALLED EMBASSY YESTERDAY TO ADVISE THAT ASSURANCES OBTAINED FROM PRESIDENT LAKAS AND OTHER KEY GOP OFFICERS FOR APPROVAL OF CONTRACT AMENDMENT REGARDING REPLACEMENT OF FISHING BOATS, THAT ALL SIGNATURES WOULD BE OBTAINED NEXT WEEK AND THAT FORMAL PROCESSING WOULD BE COMPLETED WITHIN TWO WEEKS. MINISTER SOSA ADDED THAT ON FEB. 25 HE ADDRESSED A LETTER TO GIOVANNI LAURE, PT GENERAL MANAGER, REASSURING HIM ALONG THESE LINES. (EMBASSY FORWARDING COPY AIRMAIL).

2. BARRY SMITH (IPC NEW JERSEY) CALLED EMBOFF IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING MINISTER'S CALL TO REPORT THAT PRESIDENT LAKAS, VICE PRESIDENT GERARDO GONZALEZ, AND MINISTER SOSA PAID UNEXPECTED CALL ON FABRIMAR PLANT TODAY. PRESIDENT TOLD FABRIMAR PT OFFICERS THAT IT WAS NOT POSSIBLE SECURE ALL SIGNATURES THIS WEEK DUE TO IMPORTANT HIGH LEVEL MEETINGS DURING WEEK BETWEEN GOP AND PRIVATE SECTOR LEADERS. HE ASSURED THAT NEEDED REMAINING SIGNATURES WOULD BE OBTAINED AT MINISTERIAL COUNCIL MEETING NEXT WEEK FOLLOWING CARNIVAL HOLIDAYS. PRESIDENT GAVE REASONS FOR

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IMPORMPTU PLANT VISIT AS TO BETTER

ENSURE APPROVAL OF CONTRACT AMENDMENT AT COUNCIL MEETING, HE WAS VISIBLY IMPRESSED WITH PLANT AND THE BOATS WHICH NOW IN ADVANCED STAGE, AND EXPRESSED STRONG SUPPORT FOR SUCH FOREIGN INVESTMENT IN PANAMA.

3. EMBASSY BELIEVES ABOVE DEVELOPMENTS REPRESENT STRONGEST POSSIBLE ASSURANCES OF TIMELY APPROVAL CONTRACT AMENDMENT. ANY FURTHER OBSTACLES ARE LIKELY TO BE READILY AND QUICKLY OVERCOME. OPIC LAWYER ALEMAN HAS BEEN INFORMED OF ABOVE DEVELOPMENTS. EMBASSY WILL FORWARD COPY OF FORMAL AMENDMENT WHEN AVAILABLE.

JORDEN

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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